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Letter dated 25 October 2017 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to transmit the attached letter dated 18 October 2017 whereby the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Mr. Jens Stoltenberg, submits the report on the international security presence in Kosovo for the period from 1 July to 30 September 2017 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could bring this letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Guterres**

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Annex

[Original: English]

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), please find enclosed the quarterly report on the operations of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2017 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making this report available to the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jens **Stoltenberg**

Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers the activities of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2017.

2. As at 15 September 2017, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remains approximately 4,100, from 21 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 8 non-NATO troop-contributing countries.

3. There were no major security incidents during this reporting period and no requirement for KFOR intervention.

Security situation update and operations

4. The reporting period brought no significant changes to the overall security situation in Kosovo, which remains generally stable. Continued political progress is required to sustain this, in particular through the European Union-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina.

5. During this reporting period, KFOR conducted normal framework operations across the area of operations with joint regional detachments maintaining close contact with the population. With regard to the Austerlitz Bridge refurbishment works in Mitrovica North, which resumed in mid-July 2017, KFOR maintains its presence to ensure adequate security measures in the bridge area.

6. KFOR continues its close cooperation with both the Kosovo Police and the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX). One example is a multi-faceted medical evacuation exercise in the area of Mitrovica North in July 2017, organized by KFOR in close cooperation with EULEX. The exercise successfully tested the interoperability and operational procedures of KFOR and EULEX in emergency situations requiring immediate medical evacuation of multiple personnel from an isolated location.

Summary

7. KFOR continues to contribute both to maintaining a safe and secure environment and to ensuring freedom of movement as part of a comprehensive international effort. The close coordination on the ground between KFOR in its capacity as third responder, EULEX as second responder and the Kosovo Police as first responder continues to be effective.